

REMARKS

In response to the final Office Action mailed May 15, 2008, Applicants respectfully requests reconsideration. Claims 1, 3-5, 7-10, 12-22 were pending in this Application. By this Amendment, claims 5, 9, 17 and 18 have been canceled. Applicants expressly reserve the right to prosecute at least some of the canceled claims and similar claims in one or more related Applications. Claim 23 has been added. Accordingly, claims 1, 3-4, 7, 8-10, 12-16, and 19-23 are now pending in this Application. Claims 1, 10, 14 and 21 are independent claims.

Claims 7-9 and 18-20 were objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim but were deemed allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants has/have rewritten claim 1 to include all of the limitations of the claims 5 and 9, and have amended claim 14 to include the limitations of claims 17 and 18. Claim 10 has been amended in a similar manner as claim 1 and claim 21 has been amended in a similar manner as claim 14. Accordingly, claims 1, 10, 14 and 21 are is now in allowable condition. Claims 3, 4, 7, 8, 12, 13, 15, 16, 19, 20, and 22 are allowable as they depend from a base claim which is allowable. Claim 23 has been added, and contains similar claim language as claim 12. Claim 23 is allowable as it depends from an allowable base claim.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing remarks, this Application should be in condition for allowance. A Notice to this affect is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes, after this Response, that the Application is not in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the Applicant's Representative at the number below.

Applicants hereby petitions for any extension of time which is required to maintain the pendency of this case. If there is a fee occasioned by this response, including an extension fee, that is not covered by an enclosed check, please charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 50-3735.

If the enclosed papers or fees are considered incomplete, the Patent Office is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned collect at (508) 616-9660, in Westborough, Massachusetts.

Respectfully submitted,

/DWR/

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